

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3, 7-12, 14-22, 26-39 and 44-49 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 10, 19, 21, 29, 35, 36 and 46 have been amended, claims 6 and 25 have been canceled, and claims 47-49 have been added by the present Amendment.

In the outstanding Final Office Action, claims 10 and 46 were objected to; claims 1, 2, 6, 14, 15, 19-21, 25, 32, 33 and 35-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Hung-yi in view of Lee; claims 3, 16-18, 22 and 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Hung-yi in view of Lee and Flannery; and claims 7-12, 26-31, 38, 39 and 44-46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Hung-yi in view of Lee and Pollack.

Claim Objections

Regarding the objection to the claims 10 and 46, claims 10 and 46 have been amended to address the concerns noted in the Office Action. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested this objection be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1, 2, 6, 14, 15, 19-21, 25, 32, 33 and 35-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Hung-yi in view of Lee; claims 3, 16-18, 22 and 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Hung-yi in view of Lee and Flannery; and claims 7-12, 26-31, 38, 39 and 44-46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Hung-yi in view of Lee and Pollack. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Amended independent claim 1 includes a combination of features and is directed to a method of providing an advance screen saver warning for a display apparatus. The method includes predetermining a screen saver standby time and an advance screen saver warning time for a current user session, counting a current system idle time during which no system input activity is detected during the current user session; activating an advance screen saver warning before activating a screen saver if the current system idle time is greater than or equal to a time

difference between the screen saver standby time and the advance screen saver warning time, wherein the activated advance screen saver warning is continuously executed by the display apparatus until a detection of system activity during the current user session, whereupon the advance screen saver warning is deactivated, and wherein the screen saver is activated only if the advance screen saver warning time is completed, and controlling, during the continuous execution of the advance screen saver warning, the display apparatus to output at least one of a specified sound and a visual warning message window indicative of a time difference between the screen saver standby time and the current system idle time. Further, the at least one of the specified sound and the visual warning message window is initiated based on the counting of said current system idle time and is deactivated by detection of system activity during the current user session. Independent claims 21 and 46 include similar features in a varying scope.

As discussed in the Discussion of the Related Art of the present application, one of the main objects of the screen saver for a display device is to protect the display monitor (screen) of the display device. For example, when an original user does not use computer display system for a long time, the display monitor may burn out. The screen saver is used to prevent this from occurring (see paragraph [0004] of the present application). However, as described in paragraph [0006], once the screen saver is activated, the original user needs to reenter a password or must go through a complicated authentication process in order to access the system. This is particularly problematic for a company such as LGE (the assignee of the present application) that includes many employees and many corresponding user accounts and terminals. Thus, many employees often have to reenter their login information every time the screen saver is activated. This is very inefficient, especially when several users are involved (that is, the problem exponentially increases with an increased number of users).

Thus, the present invention is directed to controlling the display apparatus before activation of the screen saver program during a current user session. That is, the advance screen saver warning time warns a user about an upcoming activation of the screen saver when there is a specified period of system input inactivity during the current user session. Thus, the user does not have to go through the laborious operation of re-entering password information, etc. to re-log into the computer when the screen saver is activated. That is, as shown in Figure 5, the user is informed about an

amount of time difference between the screen saver standby time and the current system idle time so that he or she can determine when the screen saver is going to be activated during their current user session.

As mentioned in the previously filed responses, Hung-yi is directed to computer systems that are utilized by several different users such as in a library. Each user is given access to the computer only for a predetermined amount of time such as 30 minutes. In Hung-yi, the user is notified that their time allotment is about to expire and then a screen saver is executed at the end of the allotted time such that a next user can log onto the computer.

Further, the system in Hung-yi warns the user about when their session is about to expire, and does not warn the user about an upcoming screen saver, even though the screen saver may be activated after the user's session is completed. This is a big difference than warning the user about the screen saver being activated during a current user session, because once the screen saver in Hung-yi is activated, the current user's session has already ended.

That is, in Hung-yi, there is no *need* for any screen saver function, since Hung-yi's computer could simply be turned off, have its keyboard disabled, or any number of other means for stopping its active use. That the timed out function is followed by a screen saver is incidental. Also, as discussed above, the warning signal in Hung-yi is for informing the user about their current user session expiring and not about an upcoming user session (once the user's current session has expired, the user in Hung-yi must go back to the librarian desk, reschedule another time for using the computer, and at then restart another user session).

In addition, Lee is directed to entering a hibernate mode only after an extended operation of a screen saver. Lee also does not teach or suggest the claimed invention. Further, Flannery and Pollack also do not teach or suggest the features of the present invention. Thus combining these references does not teach or suggest the claimed invention.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted independent claims 1, 21 and 46 and each of the claims depending therefrom are allowable.

New claims

In addition, new claims 47-49 have been added to set forth the invention in a varying scope, and Applicant respectfully submits the new claims are supported by the originally-filed application. In particular, new claims 47-49 clarify that the current user session is a continuous single-user session beginning when an original user logs on a computer system including the display apparatus until the original user logs off the computer system. It is respectfully submitted these new claims further define over the applied art.

CONCLUSION

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

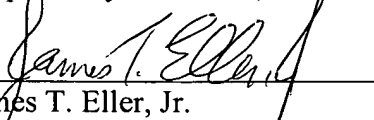
If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone David A. Bilodeau., Registration No. 42,325, at (703) 205-8072, in the Washington, D.C. area.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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